UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,374	11/12/2003	Ira L. Chavis	POU920030168US1	6368

			EXAMINER
7590	11/14/2006		SAIN, GAUTAM

Andrew J. Wojnicki, Jr.
IBM Corporation - MS P386
2455 South Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 11/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 November 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-48* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-48* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date *11/03*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1)   This is a Non final rejection after the effective filing date 11/112/2003.

2)   Claims 1-48 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3)   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3-1)   Claims 1-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McArdle

et al (US 5859974, issued Jan 1999).

Regarding claims 1, 18, 25 and 42, McArdle teaches *A method of assigning hidden*

object presentation properties to objects within a presentation graphics application, the

method comprising: providing at least one hidden object presentation property for a

selected object, said at least one hidden object presentation property having a plurality

of values, said selected object being associated with a presentation page, and wherein

each of said plurality of hidden object presentation property values indicates display

attributes for which the selected object is presented during a computer-driven

presentation; and in response to a user selection, associating at least one of said

plurality of presentation property values with said selected object. For example,

McArdle discloses a method for linking public and private pages in a conferencing

system with a presenter and participants with private and public meeting information,

where the local meeting manager presents private meeting information being different

than the pubic meeting information. The private meeting information is not accessible to the to the public participants. The private information includes private page of annotation and is linked to the pubic page (see Abstract section). This system provides a separate display screen area for public and private information, which allows for allowing sharing annotations or objects to public participants or holding them as private information (col 2, lines 35-45). The examiner equates McArdle's private information as the claimed hidden objects because the private information (including objects) are held hidden from the public participants. The user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57).

Regarding claims 2, 19, 26 and 43, McArdle teaches wherein the plurality of hidden object presentation property values are hierarchical. For example, McArdle discloses objects or annotations that appear within the private workspace or within the public workspace (col 6, lines 56-53). The examiner interprets this as hierarchical because appearing within the space is equivalent to hierarchical because inside of a space means that the space is the outside boundary and the object is inside the outer boundary.

Regarding claims 3, 20, 27 and 44, McArdle teaches wherein the plurality of hidden object presentation property values includes a set of mutually exclusive presentation property values. McArdle teaches a private and public workspace, which are mutually

exclusive presentation spaces because they do not overlap and are independent of one another (col 6, lines 56-53; see Fig 5).

Regarding claims 4, 22, 28 and 46, McArdle teaches a property designating the selected object as visible only to a presenter. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57).

Regarding claims 5, 23, 29 and 47, McArdle teaches at least one hidden object presentation property includes a property designating the selected object as visible to an audience meeting a criteria. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all meeting participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57).

Regarding claims 6, 24, 30 and 48, McArdle teaches wherein said criteria is an indicator selected from the group consisting of security clearance and privacy level. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57).

Regarding claims 7 and 31, McArdle teaches wherein said selected object is a window, said window being associated with but not contained within said presentation page. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects

within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other).

Regarding claims 8 and 32, McArdle teaches wherein said selected object is a screen region, said screen region being associated with but not contained within said presentation page. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other).

Regarding claims 9 and 33, McArdle teaches wherein said selected object is contained within said presentation page. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other). The annotations or objects are made within the private and/or public spaces.

Regarding claims 10 and 34, McArdle teaches wherein said associating includes associating at least two of said plurality of hidden object presentation property values with said selected object. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public

space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other). The annotations or objects are made within the private and/or public spaces.

Regarding claims 11 and 35, McArdle teaches wherein at least one of said at least two hidden object presentation property values is only associated with a portion of said selected object. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces, where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other). The annotations or objects are made within the private and/or public spaces.

Regarding claims 12 and 36, McArdle teaches grouping a set of objects into a compound object. McArdle discloses attaching annotations to corresponding objects in the public or private workspaces (col 6, lines 40-50; Fig 5, item 830).

Regarding claims 13 and 37, McArdle teaches associating are performed on the compound object. McArdle discloses attaching annotations to corresponding objects in the public or private workspaces (col 6, lines 40-50; Fig 5, item 830).

Regarding claims 14 and 38, McArdle teaches retaining hidden object presentation properties associated with individual objects within the set of objects. McArdle discloses attaching annotations to corresponding objects in the public or private workspaces (col 6, lines 40-50; Fig 5, item 830), which are saved with the objects,

accordingly.

Regarding claims 15 and 39, McArdle teaches hidden object presentation properties

associated with the compound object take precedence over retained hidden object

presentation properties associated with individual objects within the set of objects

grouped into the compound object. McArdle discloses attaching annotations to

corresponding objects in the public or private workspaces (col 6, lines 40-50; Fig 5, item

830), which are saved with the objects, accordingly. The objects/annotations are

presented publicly if they are in the public space and given higher priority because they

are available to all, whereas the private items are not available to all (col 6, lines 55-65).

Regarding claims 16 and 40, McArdle teaches ungrouping said compound object; and

restoring retained hidden object presentation properties for all objects ungrouped from

the compound object. McArdle discloses attaching annotations to corresponding objects

in the public or private workspaces (col 6, lines 40-50; Fig 5, item 830), which are saved

with the objects, accordingly. The objects/annotations are presented publicly if they are

in the public space and given higher priority because they are available to all, whereas

the private items are not available to all (col 6, lines 55-65) and the user can move any

object from private to public space and from public to private space. If the user moves

an object from public to private, that object is ungrouped from public space and

regrouped into the private space.

Regarding claims 17 and 41, McArdle teaches providing includes presenting a dialog

box, the dialog box including all valid hidden object presentation properties for the

selected object. McArdle discloses a private box (Fig 4, item 413), where items are

created in the private space that are not transmitted to others using tools of tool palette

(item 422) to create the private objects (col 5, lines 45-44).

Regarding claims 21 and 45, McArdle teaches associating two or more of said plurality

of display attributes with said display. McArdle discloses the user can select tools and

draw or type annotations or objects within the application public or private spaces,

where the public space objects appear to all participants an the private space objects

appear only to the private participants (col 5, lines 15-57; see Fig 5 where the private

and public spaces are linked, but not overlapping each other). The annotations or

objects are made within the private and/or public spaces.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 571-272-

4096. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

GS

Heather R. Herndon
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100